# First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti, MI

## "Follow Me"

http://www.azquotes.com/quote/1034306

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

August 17, 2015 10:00 am

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

*An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice*

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

*Hymns are found in the following books:*
**NCH** *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
**Sing!** *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
**ES** *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

## *PREPARING FOR WORSHIP*

### *Invitation*

*All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith*
*If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.*

**Prelude** Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"Hope of the World"** **46 NCH** - Steve McGhee

**Welcome** Donna Eyster

*Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.*
*We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.*

*Thank you for worshiping with us today!*

***Please rise in body or spirit as you are able***

**Announcements** Donna Eyster

## *GATHERING TO WORSHIP*

**Ringing the Bell**

***Hymn** **"Colorful Creator"** **30 NCH**

**Call to Worship (Unison)** Donna Eyster

One: God is gracious and merciful and trustworthy.
Let us join our voices in giving thanks.
**Many: The works of God are all around us.**
**Those who share in God's work lack for nothing.**
One: We are called to faithfulness, as God is faithful.
We are people of the covenant, gathered to please God.
**Many: Come, then, as wise and faithful people.**
**Come as a beloved community of divine creation.**
**We reach out to the God who cares for us.**
**Amen.** – **Adapted From "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler**

## *LISTENING FOR GOD*

**Psalter** **Psalm 67** **663 NCH**

**Old Testament Reading** Genesis 45:1-15 Donna Eyster

**Hymn** **"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"** **136 NCH**

**Children's Time** *children are invited to come forward*

**New Testament Reading** Romans 12: 1-8 Carol Hall

**Sermon** **Bold Moves** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"All Things Bright and Beautiful"** **31 NCH**

## *CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE*

**Prayers of the People** Carol Hall

*All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time.*

*Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.*

## Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version — Carol Hall

*When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.*

***Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey***

**O God, you love us like a good parent,**
**and are present in every aspect of our existence.**
**May your nature become known and respected by all.**
**May your joy, peace, wholeness and justice**
**be the reality for everyone as we live by the Jesus Way.**
**Give us all that we really need to live every day for you.**
**And forgive us our failures as we forgive others for their failures.**
**Keep us from doing those things which are not of you,**
**and cause us always to be centered on your love.**
**For you are the true reality in this our now, and in all our future.**
**In the Jesus Way we pray. Amen.**

*-- David Sorrill, cited on http://rainbowcathedral.wordpress.com/prayers*

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# *RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING*

## Invitation to the Offering (Unison) — Carol Hall

**As we make melody to God with our hearts and voices, let our hands also be employed in service. We here offer ourselves and the fruits of our labor that God may bless and multiply the good to be accomplished through them and us. May our riches be employed for the common benefit of all God's children. Amen.**

## Offertory — Steve McGhee

## *Doxology — "Take My Gifts" — 562 NCH

*Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,*
*Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,*
*Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,*
*Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!*

***Prayer of Dedication** ***(Unison)*** Donna Eyster

**Your generosity, O God, is beyond our deserving. You grant health to our bodies and minds. You surround us with vast resources and with people who love us You allow us to make decisions about the use of our time and possessions and relationships. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to share with others some of what we have received. Help us to use all our gifts as you intend. Amen.**

**– Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler**

## *DEPARTING WITH PRAISE*

***Hymn of Departure** **"Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life"** **331 NCH**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

One: Love God, and walk in the statutes that mark God's reign.
Let your worship continue throughout the week ahead.

**Many: We will remember God's steadfast love every day.**
**We seek to walk in faithfulness and uprightness of heart.**
**We open our hearts to One who knows all our thoughts.**
**We seek to pattern our actions after Christ Jesus, today**
**And every day!**
**Amen.** **– Adapted From "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler**

**Postlude** Steve McGhee

*(Please be seated for the Postlude)*

**Passing the Peace** *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

**First Congregational United Church of Christ**
**PO Box 980413**
**218 North Adams Street**
**Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198**
**734-482-6980**
***website:*** ***www.ypsiucc.com***

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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| Our Volunteers | Today: August 16th | Next Sunday: August 23rd |
|---|---|---|
| **Usher** | Lyle Molter | Marty Klieno |
| **Preaching** | Carol Hall | Carol Hall |
| **Worship Leader** | Donna Eyster | Wayne Burling |
| **Worship Set-up** | Donna Eyster | Glenda Horvath |
| **Acolyte** | Hunter Turner | Lyle Molter |
| **Friendship Time** | Melanie Harner | Carol Hall |

## *ANNOUNCEMENTS*

**CALL TO MEETING:** August 30, 2015, immediately following the worship service, there will be a **Quarterly Meeting** of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Old business, information, reports and new business will be brought before the Congregation at that time.

**PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES:** If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

***Fran Pebbles'*** address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

***Sally Dusbiber's*** *address'*: *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

**IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR):** For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*****,** or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

**MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION:** For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

**WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION:** "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

**OUR WEBSITE:** http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

**KROGER FUNDRAISER:** **HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!!** Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expires May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.
Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.

## About this week's cover photo:

http://halelrod.com/

In addition to being one of the highest rated keynote speakers in America, **Hal Elrod** is the #1 bestselling author of what's being widely regarded as one "one of the most life-changing books ever written," *The Miracle Morning: The Not-So-Obvious Secret Guaranteed to Transform Your Life… (Before 8AM)*. He's also a Hall of Fame business achiever, one of America's top Success Coaches, an ultra-marathon runner, and grateful husband & father.

Known as **"Yo Pal Hal"** since hosting his first radio show at age 15, his greatest triumph came at age 20 after he was hit head on by a drunk driver (at 80 mph) and found dead at the scene…

Despite being dead for six minutes, in a coma for six days, breaking 11 bones and being told he may never walk again, Hal defied the logic of doctors and the temptations to be a victim, and he bounced back to prove that ALL of us are capable of overcoming extraordinary adversity to create extraordinary results in our personal and professional lives.

Hal has appeared on dozens of TV and radio shows across the country, and he's been featured in numerous books, including *The Education of Millionaires*, the all-time bestselling *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series, *Cutting Edge Sales*, *The 800-Pound Gorilla of Sales*, *Releasing the Chains*, *Living College Life In the Front Row*, and *The Author's Guide To Building An Online Platform*, to name a few.

His #1 bestselling book, ***The Miracle Morning*** and his highly acclaimed #6 bestseller, ***Taking Life Head On!*** are two of the most acclaimed books on Amazon with a combined 800+ 5-star reviews.